

CITY OF NEWTON
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN
LAND USE COMMITTEE REPORT
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2012

Present: Ald. Hess-Mahan (Chairman), Ald. Laredo, Merrill, Fischman, Crossley, Harney;
absent: Ald. Albright and Schwartz

#213-10(2) NEWTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY/DURANT HOMESTEAD FOUNDATION, INC. petition for a ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF TIME in which to EXERCISE SPECIAL PERMIT/SITE PLAN APPROVAL #213-10, granted on October 4, 2010, to demolish and rebuild a portion of the Durant-Kenrick Homestead to accommodate a new, larger visitor entry area and meeting space to allow a museum, which includes a waiver from the required number of parking spaces and their dimensions, at 286 WAVERLEY AVENUE, Ward 7. Ref: Sec 30-24(c)(4) City of Newton Rev Zoning Ord, 2007.

ACTION: APPROVED 6-0

NOTE: Brooke Lipsitt, former Alderman and member of the Newton Historical Society, and Cindy Stone, Director of the Newton Historical Society were present. Section 30-24(c)(4) allows one year in which to exercise a special permit, but an additional one-year extension may be granted by the Board of Aldermen given that G.L. chapter 40A allows two years. Ms. Lipsitt apologized for not seeking this extension earlier and thanked the Committee for holding this special meeting. In the past year, the nineteenth-century ell addition has been demolished and the addition has been vetted by the Newton Historical Commission and the Massachusetts Historical Commission. The project went out to bid and a contractor has been hired. The hope is to begin construction this month and complete the addition before Labor Day. Fundraising has been successful. \$1.27 million has been received for the preservation restriction and a matching construction grant of over \$1 million is forthcoming. Ms. Stone reported the Historical Society took ownership of the building as of May 5, 2011. An archeological dig by University of Massachusetts students unearthed the remains of an earlier dairy building under the demolished ell (in the area where the elevator will be located in the new addition). The remains will be removed, stored, and relocated on the property. Alderman Laredo moved to approve the one-year extension of time, which motion carried 6-0. The original special permit contained a scrivener error citing the date the vote occurred as September 21 instead of October 4. A correction will be filed at the Registry of Deeds with the extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Hess-Mahan, Chairman